



ECEAP

WASHINGTON STATE'S



EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
AND
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Preschool for low-income and at-risk children in Washington State

ECEAP Helps Children Prepare for Success

ECEAP is a “whole-child,” comprehensive, family-focused preschool program designed to help low-income and at-risk children and their families succeed in school and life. It has a proven track record of serving Washington State for over 17 years by giving communities the flexibility to design programs that fit their local needs through ECEAP’s nationally-respected, high-quality performance standards. Here are some of the key facts about ECEAP:

- ◆ The target ECEAP population is three- and four-year-old children and their families with incomes at or below 110 percent of the federal poverty level.
- ◆ ECEAP was created by the Legislature in 1985 as a pilot program, with support from Governor Booth Gardner and the Washington Business Roundtable. It has continued to be supported by subsequent Legislatures and Governors.
- ◆ ECEAP currently serves almost 6,000 children and their families through 33 contractors – school districts, educational service districts, local governments, nonprofit organizations, childcare providers, community colleges, and tribal organizations – with over 240 program sites statewide.
- ◆ From 1985 through the 2002-2003 program year, ECEAP has served over 104,000 children and their families in Washington State.
- ◆ Services are provided through a combination of resources. Programs contract for state funds and leverage other dollars and in-kind services to the greatest extent possible.
- ◆ Because many factors affect a child’s learning ability and development, ECEAP has four interactive components: **Education; Health, Safety, and Nutrition; Family Support; and Parent Involvement.**
- ◆ Integration of certain ECEAP slots with family day care homes and child care centers makes it possible to reach low-income children and families who otherwise could not access ECEAP’s comprehensive services because of their need for full-time child care.

ECEAP: Ready to Succeed!